

The Ramtop

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QL GOLD CARD USES 2.88 MEG DRIVES

After recently adding a Gold Card to my QL I began to think about taking advantage of the ability to use the new ED drives. Armed with the back issues of IQLR I picked up a couple of computer magazines and started looking at ads that had the 2.88 MB disk drives for IBM compatibles. I found an ad by Midwest Micro that had Teac drives for \$89. The ad only listed the drive as a Teac FD235J. The articles in IQLR had stated that the four digits after this number were the key to making sure the drive would work with the Gold Card. A Teac FD235J 3653 was verified as being compatible (with the proper strap settings). I decided to call Midwest Micro's technical hotline to verify that the drive they were selling had the proper model number. The technical rep assured me that it was, so I placed an order for one and a box of ten ED disks. I recieved the drive and disks in three days.

When I opened the package, I was a little concerned because the drive had a model number of FD235J 3631. Before I called to return it I thought I would give it a try. I carefully made a drawing of the strap settings as recieved and hooked it up. It responded as flp2 and would format any type of disk as DD. It refused to recognize HD or ED disks. I then changed the strap settings as described in the IQLR article. With these settings the drive thought that a DD disk was HD and tried to format accordingly, an HD formatted as DD and still wouldn't recognize an ED disk.

I called Midwest Micro's tech line to see if they could offer any suggestions. Not being familiar with the QL or Gold Card they weren't able to help much but I guess I didn't really expect them to. They did give me the number for Teac's tech line. I called them and explained about the QL, Gold Card and my results with the drive so far. Again I didn't really expect them to know anything about the QL or Gold Card. I asked what the differences were between a 3653 and a 3631. Teac told me that the 3631 is a newer version of the 3653. When I explained that I had the strap settings to make the 3653 compatible Teac said that I should be able to get the 3631 to work with the addition of one more strap. I tried this and got it almost working. It would recognize all three types of disks but when attempting to format an HD or ED disk it wouldn't give the full number of sectors as if there were bad sectors on the disk. I couldn't verify the ED disk, but the HD disk would format OK in another drive.

I called Teac back with the latest results and was told that I might have to add one or two more straps, with each one having three possible positions. After some more experimenting I finally got the drive to work perfectly with all three types of disks. The chart below shows the strap settings as recieved and set to make the Teac FD235J 3631 drive fully compatible with the Gold Card. As mentioned in the previous IQLR article on the 3.2 Meg drives, you may want to change strap DS0. This strap determines if the drive will be flp1 or flp2. For flp1 set it to A1-A2. For flp2 set it to A1-B1.

I hope this information helps anyone considering a 3.2 Meg drive for their Gold Card. This drive works great, has a noticeable increase in access speed and it's great formatting a disk to 6400 sectors.

TEAC FD235J 3631

AS RECIEVED	MOD .FOR GOLD CARD
A1-B1	A1-A2
A3-B3	A3-B3
C3-D3	B2-C2
D4-E4	B4-C4
E1-F1	D3-E3
E2-F2	E4-F4
F3-F4	G2-G3

Information here current as of 12/92
by John J. Impellizzeri <CIS>75206,1565

HELP WANTED

Part time Fortran Programmer, some travel involved. Call George Choi 216-336-2771.

STILL AVAILABLE

Still Alive with Uncle Clive Bumper Stickers" are still available to give a little class to your Bimmer or hold together your urban assault vehicle. Send \$1.00 and a SASE to Thomas Simon, 615 School Ave., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221.

Sinclair Notes

Well it seems like another winter has come and almost passed us again. Our Sinclairs are growing long in the tooth but there are still developments out there that will be of interest to all of us. This issue comes to you with two articles gleaned from CIS primarily for the QL. We have a few more programs for the emulation of the Sinclair machines on the PC Clone platform.

One sad bit of news came to us from Don Lambert is that Bill Pederson had died. Most of us remember him as the owner of Widjup Software from the Timex Sinclair Computer Shows and for his technical expertise. He however left behind a library of utility programs for the Oliger disk drive system. One of these programs will be reproduced here in the newsletter. The others are available and will be demonstrated at our next East Side meeting. Don also has a request to buy a full height Tandon TM 100-2A drive or compat-

to send the author some money. We also have the Spectrum Emulator for the QL which will be available for distribution by modem.

We need contributions for the newsletter and demonstrations for the meetings. If you haven't written an article lately, hurry up and do it. Doug has promised to give us his insights into food that can be eaten while using the computer. We hope he will turn this in soon. And each member of our group should plan on giving one demonstration at the meeting. I started to work on my collection of tapes again to convert them to disk and it is a lot more work that I remembered. I think it would be worthwhile if we could put our collective efforts toward converting one of the

tape copier programs to save to the JLO disk format. Is anyone interested, in helping with this project like GABE SHAFFER? In this issue are a couple articles about area BBS systems which should be of interest. In light of this activity the question is are we becoming or are we already living in a Police State? Some local police de-

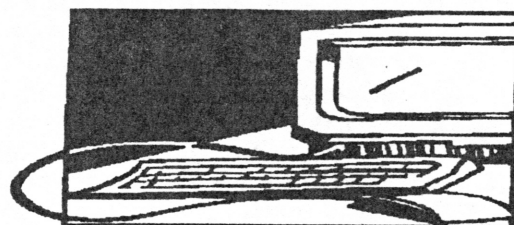
partments have decide to monitor pharmacy prescriptions through computer tracking in an effort to find drug dealers and the abuse of medications. This sort of police monitoring is disturbing especially when there seems to be so much real crime out in the world without having to invent some. As Joe Bob Briggs, the syndicated drive in movie critic, has said, "Without eternal vigilance it CAN happen here."

Greg Dupuy, our president, at the restaurant after a meeting.



ible. He is using these on ZX-81s with Larkin and Aerco disk interfaces. Does anyone have any old drives or ideas to help him out? Write to Don Lambert, 1301 Kiblinger Place, Auburn, IN 46706, tel. #219-925-1372..

At the Christmas meeting, our auction brought out more goodies for everyone. This was the first year that PC's made an appearance. An XT was even sold. Originally outbid by Ted K., I ended up picking up a copy of Finesse, a superannuated DTP which is being used to put this newsletter together (talk about your poetic justice!). We also digitized some of the photos from the meeting. One should be reproduced here. This was made with a Packard-Bell, Mustec manufactured hand scanner (\$150) an 400 dpi, 256 grey scale device. The last west side meeting was a demonstration of Jon Kaczor's laptop, a 486, VGA which we proceed to run the ZX-81 emulator on. By the way various members have copies of this now and those who have PC's will be interested in obtaining a copy. It is shareware though, so if you like the program, be sure



BBS PROBLEMS: A CONTINUING SAGA

You may already know about the BBS 'sting' six months ago in Munroe Falls, OH for "disseminating matter harmful to juveniles." Those charges were dropped for lack of evidence. Now a trial date of 1/4/93 has been set after new felony charges were filed, although the pretrial hearing revealed no proof that *any* illegal content ever went out over the BBS, nor was *any* found on it.

For those unfamiliar with the case, here's a brief summary to date: In May 1992 someone told Munroe Falls police they *thought* minors could have been getting access to adult materials over the AKRON ANOMALY BBS. Police began a 2-month investigation. They found a small number of adult files in the non-adult area.

The sysop says he made a clerical error, causing those files to be overlooked. Normally adult files were moved to a limited-access area with proof of age required (i.e. photostat of a drivers license). Police had no proof that any minor had actually accessed those files so police logged onto the BBS using a fictitious account, started a download, and borrowed a 15-year old boy just long enough to press the return key. The boy had no knowledge of what was going on.

Police then obtained a search warrant and seized Lehrer's BBS system. Eleven days later police arrested and charged sysop Mark Lehrer with "disseminating matter harmful to juveniles," a misdemeanor usually used on bookstore owners who sell the wrong book to a minor. However, since the case involved a computer, police added a *felony* charge of "possession of criminal tools" (i.e. "one computer system").

Note that "criminal tool" statutes were originally intended for specialized tools such as burglar's tools or hacking paraphernalia used by criminal 'specialists'. The word "tool" implies deliberate use to commit a crime, whereas the evidence shows (at most) an oversight. This raises the Constitutional issue of equal protection under the law (14'th Amendment). Why should a computer hobbyist be charged with a felony when anyone else would be charged with a misdemeanor?

At the pretrial hearing, the judge warned the prosecutor that they'd need "a lot more evidence than this" to convict. However the judge allowed the case to be referred to a Summit County grand jury, though there was no proof the sysop had actually "disseminated", or even intended to disseminate any adult material "recklessly, with knowledge of its character or content", as the statute requires. Indeed, the sysop had a long history of *removing* such content from the non-adult area whenever he became aware of it. This came out at the hearing.

The prosecution then went on a fishing expedition. According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer (7/21/92)

"[Police chief] Stahl said computer experts with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation are reviewing the hundreds of computer files seized from Lehrer's home. Stahl said it's possible that some of the games and movies are being accessed in violation of copyright laws."

Obviously the police believe they have carte blanche to search unrelated personal files, simply by lumping all the floppies and files in with the computer as a "criminal tool." That raises Constitutional issues of whether the search and seizure was legal. That's a precedent which, if not challenged, has far-reaching implications for *every* computer owner.

Also, BBS access was *not* sold for money, as the Cleveland Plain Dealer reports. The BBS wasn't a business, but rather a free community service, running on Lehrer's own computer, although extra time on the system could be had for a donation to help offset some of the operating costs. 98% of data on the BBS consists of shareware programs, utilities, E-mail, etc.

The police chief also stated: "I'm not saying it's obscene because I'm not getting into that battle, but it's certainly not appropriate for kids, especially without parental permission," Stahl said. Note the police chief's admission that obscenity wasn't an issue at the time the warrant was issued.

Here the case *radically* changes direction. The charges above were dropped. However, while searching the 600 floppy disks seized along with the BBS, police found five picture files they think *could* be depictions of borderline underage women; although poor picture quality makes it difficult to tell.

The sysop had *removed* these unsolicited files from the BBS hard drive after a user uploaded them. However the sysop didn't think to destroy the floppy disk backup, which was tossed into a cardboard box with hundreds of others. This backup was made before he erased the files off the hard drive.

The prosecution, lacking any other charges that would stick, is using these several floppy disks to charge the sysop with two new second-degree felonies, "Pandering Obscenity Involving A Minor", and "Pandering Sexually Oriented Matter Involving A Minor" (i.e. kiddie porn, prison sentence of up to 25 years).

The prosecution produced no evidence the files were ever "pandered". There's no solid expert testimony that the pictures depict minors. All they've got is the opinion of a local pediatrician.

A SYSOP IN TROUBLE: THE CONTINUING SAGA

All five pictures have such poor resolution that there's no way to tell for sure to what extent makeup or retouching was used. A digitized image doesn't have the fine shadings or dot density of a photograph, which means there's very little detail on which to base an expert opinion. The digitization process also modifies and distorts the image during compression.

The prosecutor offered to plea-bargain these charges down to mere "possession" of child porn--a 4th degree felony sex crime punishable by one year in prison--to avoid a trial. Mark Lehrer *refuses* to plead guilty to a sex crime, and rightfully so. Mark Lehrer had discarded the images for which the City of Munroe Falls *adamantly* demands "at least a felony conviction." This means the first "pandering" case involving a BBS is going to trial on Jan 4th, in Akron, Ohio

The child porn statutes named in the charges contain a special exemption for libraries, as does the original "dissemination to juveniles" statute (ORC # 2907.321 & 2). The exemption presumably includes public and privately owned libraries available to the public, and their disk collections. This protects library owners when an adult item is misplaced or loaned to a minor. (i.e. 8 year olds can rent R-rated movies from a public library).

Yet although this sysop was running a file library larger than a small public library, he did not receive equal protection under the law, as guaranteed by the 14th Amendment. Neither will any other BBS, if this becomes precedent. The 'library defense' was allowed for large systems in Cubby versus CompuServe, based on a previous obscenity case (Smith vs. California), in which the Supreme Court ruled it generally unconstitutional to hold bookstore owners liable for content, because that would place an undue burden on bookstores to review every book they carry, thereby 'chilling' the distribution of books and infringing the First Amendment.

If the sysop beats the bogus "pandering" charge, there's still "possession", even though he was *totally unaware* of what was on an old backup floppy, unsolicited in the first place, found unused in a cardboard box. "Possession" does not require knowledge that the person depicted is underage. The law presumes anyone in possession of such files must be a pedophile. The framers of the law never anticipated sysops, or that a sysop would routinely be receiving over 10,000 files from over 1,000 users.

The case could set a far ranging statewide and nationwide precedent, whether or not the sysop is innocent or guilty, since he and his family might lack the funds to fight this--after battling to get this far. These kinds of issues are normally resolved in the higher courts-- and *need* to be resolved, lest this

becomes commonplace anytime the police or a prosecutor want to intimidate a BBS, snoop through users' electronic mail, or "just appropriate someone's computer for their own use."

You, the reader, probably know a sysop like Mark Lehrer. You and your family have probably enjoyed the benefits of BBS'ing. You may even have put one over on a busy sysop now and then.

In this case; the sysop is a sober and responsible college student, studying computer science and working to put himself through school. He kept his board a lot cleaner than could be reasonably expected, so much so that the prosecution can find very little to fault him for.

Please consider a small contribution to ensure a fair trial and precedent, with standards of evidence upheld, so that mere possession of a computer is not grounds for a witch hunt.

These issues must not be decided by the tactics of a 'war of attrition'; *however far* in the court system this needs to go. For this reason, an independent, legal defense trust fund has been set up by concerned area computer users, CPA's, attorneys, etc.

Mark Lehrer First Amendment Legal Defense Fund
(or just: MLFALDF)
Lockbox No. 901287
Cleveland, OH 44190-1287

All unused defense funds go to the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a nonprofit, 501c3 organization, to defend BBS's and First Amendment rights. Help get the word out. If you're not sure about all this, ask your local sysops what this precedent could mean, who the EFF is--and ask them to keep you informed of further developments in this case.

Please send any questions, ideas or comments directly to the sysop:

Mark Lehrer CompuServe: 71756,2116
InterNet: 71756.2116@compuserve.com
Modem: (216) 688-6383
USPO: P.O. Box 275
Munroe Falls, OH 44262



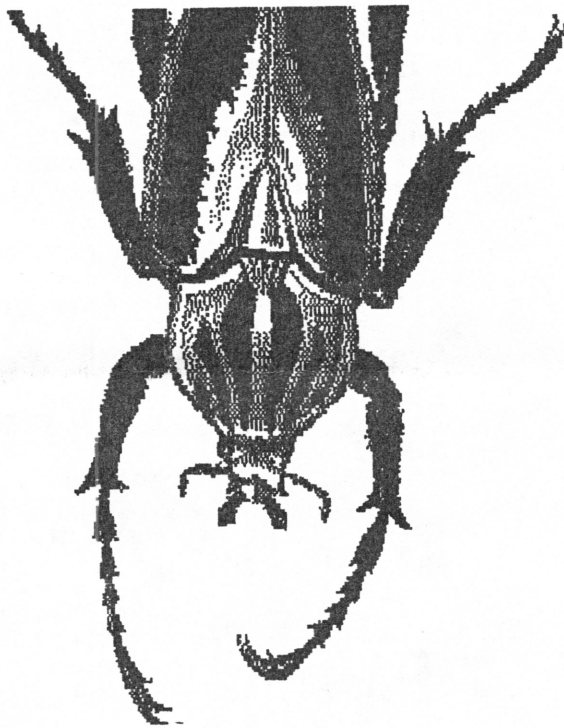
Resources for the QL

Midwest Micro Peripherals 1-800-552-8080

Teac 3.5 inch 2.88MB floppy drive - item #002692
\$89.00

Dysan 3.5 inch ED diskettes - item #002397 \$5.95 ea
for 10+

IQLR (International QL Report)
15 Kilburn Ct.
Newport, RI 02840 USA



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OHIO BBS RAIDED BY FBI AGENTS

(Feb. 2) The FBI has raided a Boardman, Ohio, computer bulletin board system called "Rusty & Edie's," accusing the operators of illegally distributing copyrighted software. The Software Publishers Association, which worked with the FBI in investigating the case, said in a statement from Washington the agent seized computers, hard disk drives and telecommunications equipment, as well as financial and subscriber records during the raid last Saturday. The SPA says the investigation started several months ago, "following the receipt of complaints from a number of SPA members that their software was being illegally distributed on the Rusty & Edie's BBS." The trade group says that as part of the investigation, it downloaded copyrighted business and entertainment programs from the BBS. The system, established in 1987, was described one of the largest private BBSes in the country, with 124 nodes available to callers and more than 14,000 subscribers. "To date, the board has logged in excess of 3.4 million phone calls, with new calls coming in at the rate of over 4,000 per day," the SPA stated added. It included "over 19 gigabytes of storage housing over 100,000 files available to subscribers for downloading." The SPA said the BBS had subscribers in the United States and several foreign countries, including Canada, Luxembourg, France, Germany, Finland, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. For a fee of \$89 a year, "subscribers ..were given access to the board's contents, including many popular copyrighted business and entertainment packages," the SPA statement says.

Origin:

TGC Services Clarksville, Indiana

Considerable
Human
Ancestry

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5 RESTORE 181: FOR n=39936 TO
40007: READ w: POKE n,w: NEXT
n
181 DATA 243,33,72,156,1,143,8,
62,288,237,121,16,-2,285,56,156,
285,56,156,48,-5,285,56,156,56,-
5,6,8,197,17,8,285,51,156,48,-
5,285,51,156,56,-5,115,35,114,35
,193,16,-21,251,281
182 DATA 6,1,16,-2,19,62,127,21
9,254,246,224,68,48,2,287,28,237
,128,31,31,281,8,8,8,8,8,8,8,8
,8,8,8,8,8,8,8,8
500 CLS: PRINT "MIDJUP DISK
TESTING SERVICES DISK SPE
ED MEASUREMENT"
520 PRINT "THE DRIVE YOU SE
LECT WILL BE TESTED FOR ACCEL
ERATION AND SUSTAINED
SPEED."
525 PRINT #1:"BEFORE PROCEEDING
PLACE A DISK IN YOUR SELECTED
DRIVE AND CLOSE ITS DOOR."
529 PAUSE 288
530 INPUT "WHICH DRIVE? (8 TO 3
)"
531 OUT 183,8: PAUSE 68: OUT 18
3,2^w: OUT 143,8
532 LET w=USR 39936
533 INK 6: PLOT 188,81: DRAW 15
8,8: PLOT 188,72: DRAW 158,8: PL
OT 188,63: DRAW 158,8: PLOT 188,
63: DRAW 158,8: INK 7
534 PRINT "TURN RPM": ON ERR
GO TO 548: FOR n=40008 TO 40023
STEP 2: LET w=PEEK n+256+PEEK (n
+1)
535 LET w$=STR$ (1685888/w)
536 IF LEN w$>6 THEN LET w$=w$(
TO 6)
537 PRINT "w/2-28883:" w$
538 INK 6: PLOT 8*(n-39994),78+
2.5*(VAL w$-388): DRAW 2,8: DRAW
8,4: DRAW -4,8: DRAW 8,-4: DRAW
2,8: INK 7
548 NEXT n: ON ERR RESET
550 PRINT AT 19,8:"PRESS AN
Y KEY TO CONTINUE"
Z$="Z" OR Z$="Z" THEN COPY
555 GO TO 588
9888 REM DISKSPEED WAS WRITTEN B
Y BILL PEDERSEN
9999 CLEAR: SAVE //"DISKSPEED" L
INE 1

```

Here are three of Bill Peder-
sen's programs for the Oliger
Disk interface. The first is dis-
kspeed, the second is readerror
and the third is checkdisk. We
hope you enjoy them. Special
thanks to Don Lambert for pro-
viding us with these utilities.

```

5 RESTORE 183: FOR n=40024 TO
40186: READ w: POKE n,w: NEXT n
183 DATA 243,1,143,8,62,288,237
,121,16,-2,14,175,62,1,237,121,1
4,143,237,128,31,56,-5,62,16,237
,121,237,128,31,56,-5,1,18,8,17,
8
184 DATA 197,1,143,8,237,128,31
,56,-5,62,136,237,121,237,128,31
,56,-5,238,8,48,1,19,14,175,237,
128,254,18,56,1,175,68,237,121,1
93,11,128,177,11,32,-41,213,193,251
,281
1500 CLS: INPUT "TRACK/SIDE REA
D ERRORS" "Which drive? (8 TO 3)
"
5502 INPUT "TRACK/SIDE READ ERRO
RS" "Which track? (8 TO 39) "
5505 INPUT "TRACK/SIDE READ ERRO
RS" "Which side? (8 OR 1) "
5506 PRINT AT 3,11:"WORKING "
5506 PRINT AT 14,8:"The time n
eeded for this test depends on
the number of bad sectors. B
e patient."
5510 OUT 183,(128 AND 5)+2^w: OU
T 143,8: PAUSE 88: OUT 191,t
5515 LET bc=USR 40024
5520 LET b$=STR$ bc: PRINT INK 2
"DRIVE "w" INK 1"
Out of "PEEK 40057+256+PEEK 48
858," attempts to read" sequen
tial sectors at track "t"
side "s": there w" as AND b
c<2:"ere " AND bc>1:"no" AND NOT
bc:b$ AND bc:"error":s" AND b
c>1:"
5522 PRINT PAPER 5" CONTINU
e for another DRIVE/
TRACK/SIDE"
5523 PLOT 8,175: DRAW 255,8: DRA
W 8,-55: DRAW -255,8: DRAW 8,55
5524 PLOT 8,128: DRAW 8,-17: DRA
W 255,8: DRAW 8,17
5525 STOP: GO TO 1500
9999 CLEAR: SAVE //"READERROR"
LINE 1

```

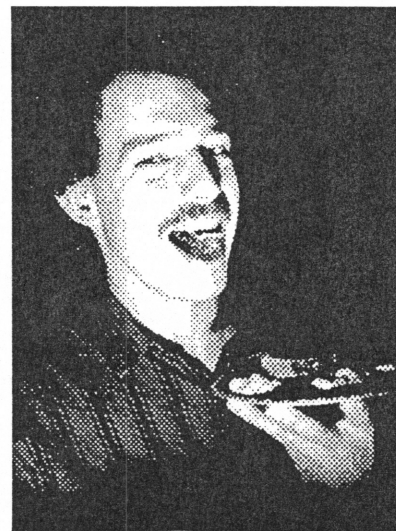
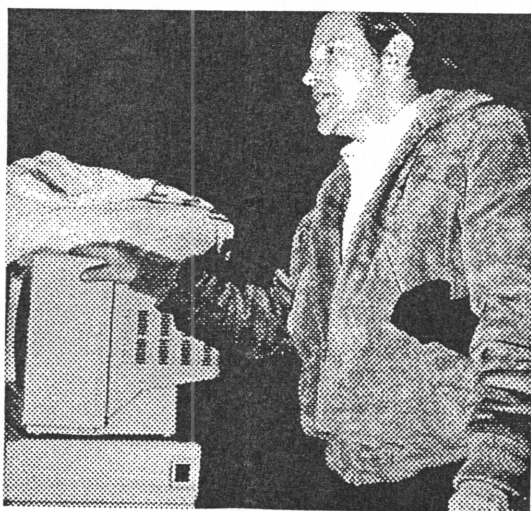
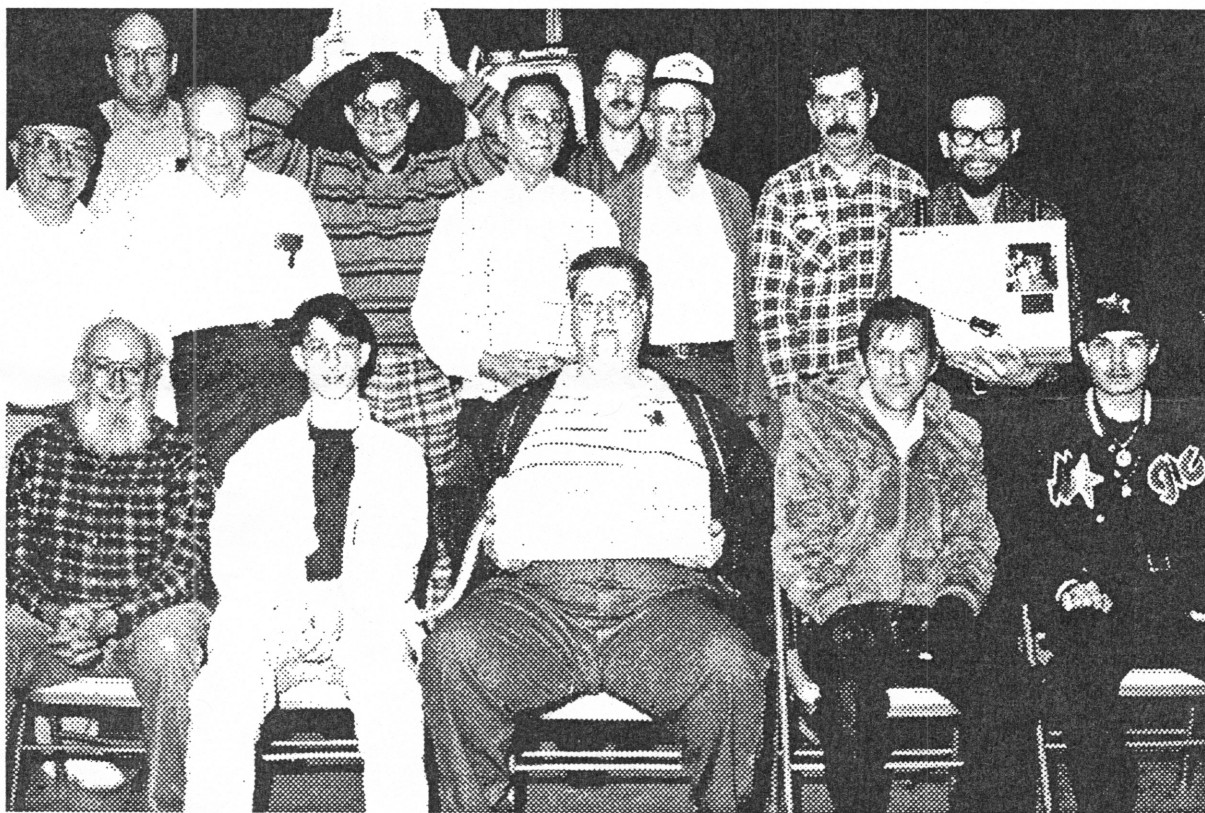
```

5 RESTORE 183: FOR n=40024 TO
40186: READ w: POKE n,w: NEXT n
183 DATA 243,1,143,8,62,288,237
,121,16,-2,14,175,62,1,237,121,1
4,143,237,128,31,56,-5,62,16,237
,121,237,128,31,56,-5,1,232,3,17,
8
184 DATA 197,1,143,8,237,128,31
,56,-5,62,136,237,121,237,128,31
,56,-5,238,8,48,1,19,14,175,237,
128,254,18,56,1,175,68,237,121,1
93,11,128,177,11,32,-41,213,193,251
,281
2000 CLS: INPUT "CHECK DISK" "W
hich drive? (8 TO 3) "
AT 2,18:"WORKING " INK 7: PAP
ER 7:"01234567890123456789012345
67890101234567890123456789012345
67890123456789" "23456789"
2002 POKE 40057,188: POKE 40058,
8: POKE 40048,24: LET side=8: LE
T track=8
2004 OUT 183,2^w: OUT 143,8: PAU
SE 15
2006 OUT 183,2^w+(128 AND side):
OUT 191,track
2008 LET bc=USR 40024
2010 POKE 22656+track+32*side+(3
2 AND track>31),32+8*(bc+side):
LET side=NOT side: IF NOT side T
HEN LET track=track+1
2012 IF track<48 THEN GO TO 2006
2014 PRINT AT 2,8:"TEST COMPLETE
D"
2015 STOP
9990 STOP
9999 CLEAR: SAVE //"CHECKDISK"
LINE 1

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The Cleveland Timex Sinclair User Group puts on their most attentive look for the camera last December. Dave Hoshor gives a demonstration of his new avocation, and plans the first Z-80 Yo-Yo. Doug shows us what was his favorite part of our party tray while Bob Parish acts as his own autioneer. If you only come to one meeting a year be sure to make it the December meeting on the first friday of the month. Maybe Santa will come.

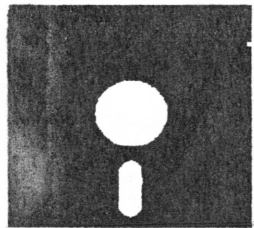


THE FANTASTIC INCREDIBLE QLXL-CARD

At the January 24, 1993 International QL meeting in Reggio, Italy, Miracle Systems sold all their Gold Cards & Extra Density drives. But the real good news were about the new PC Card. Stuart Honeyball took a brief conference showing the card and describing its features:

Name: QLXL CARD. Processor 68EC040 at 20 MHz!!!. 8 Mb of RAM!!! Operating system: a version of SMS-2, QSMS, specially written by Tony Tebby. Improved Superbasic compatible interpreter: X-BASIC. The card initially will support only MODE 4 and 8 but later releases of the O/S will support also the improved PC graphics. The QLXL CARD will be able to access the standard PC peripherals and will work with EGA or VGA graphics cards. Furthermore it will have also two standard QL network ports. The card didn't actually run (it had been completed just two days before!) but the final prototype was shown to all the people.

The speed should be roughly 5/8 times that of a Gold Card (30/40 times of a Standard QL). Compatibility with QL software is claimed to be good. QSMS will not be too speed optimised as some additional code will be devolved to allow as many QL programs as possible to run on the QLXL-CARD. Miracle & Tebby are really working hard to achieve the maximum of compatibility. The card will use a 68040 without MMU and coprocessor (as QSMS initially will not support it) and 20 MHz clock to keep low the cost of the card which should be around 500' (but Stuart says a bit more...) (By the way, I think that the EC040 is available at 20 Mhz only).
Andromeda BBS = Rome - Italy --- from a BBS message by Chris Fowler



*The Ramtop
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Brooklyn, Ohio 44144*



*Dow Lambert
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Auburn, IN 46706*

